GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1656
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2007
PRIME MINISTER` S VISIT TO RUSSIA
Pradhan Shri Dharmendra;Rijiju Shri Kiren;Singh Shri Mohan;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore;Vallabhaneni Shri Balashowry

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has recently visited Russia;

(b) if so, the details of the various issues discussed during the visit and the outcome thereof;

(c) the details of the agreements signed on the occasion; and

(d) the extent to which bilateral agreements are likely to be beneficial for both the countries?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE)

(a) Yes, the Prime Minister visited Russia on 11-12 November 2007.

(b), (c) & (d) During the visit, the Prime Minister held wide-ranging discussions with the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. Vladimir V. Putin on strengthening bilateral relations, particularly in the areas of trade and economy, energy security, defence, high technology and culture. Additionally, the two leaders exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest. The Prime Minister also met with the Russian Prime Minister Mr. Viktor Zubkov to discuss economic, scientific and cultural cooperation. The following agreements/documents were signed during the visit to enhance cooperation in respective fields:

(i) Agreement on cooperation in development and production of multi role transport aircraft;
(ii) Agreement on cooperation to combat illicit trafficking in narcotics, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
(iii) Agreement on cooperation in the field of joint moon exploration;
(iv) Letters of Exchange for utilising rupee debt funds for Russian investments in India.